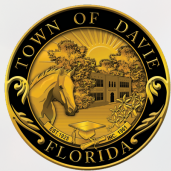


HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS



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CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY



AS YOU DECK THE HALLS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, BE FIRE SMART! A SMALL FIRE THAT SPREADS TO A CHRISTMAS TREE CAN GROW LARGE VERY QUICKLY.



PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



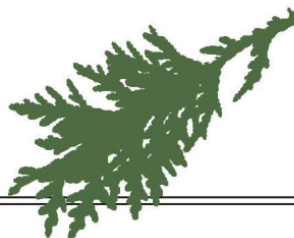
PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.



After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.

Check with your local community to find a recycling program.

Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

FACTS

- ! **One** of every three home Christmas tree fires is caused by electrical problems.
- ! Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ! A heat source too close to the tree causes roughly **one in every four** of the fires.



**NATIONAL FIRE
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**

The leading information and knowledge resource
on fire, electrical and related hazards



PUT A FREEZE ON WINTER HOLIDAY FIRES

IT'S FUN TO DECORATE FOR THE WINTER HOLIDAYS, BUT HOLIDAY DECORATIONS CAN INCREASE YOUR RISK OF A HOME FIRE. AS YOU DECK THE HALLS THIS SEASON, BE FIRE SMART.



More than half of the home decoration fires in December are started by candles.



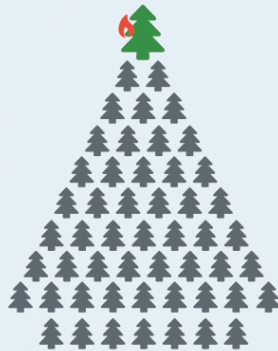
More than 1/3 of home decoration fires are started by candles.



The top 3 days for home candle fires are **Christmas Day, New Year's Day** and **New Year's Eve**.



Keep candles at least **12 inches** away from anything that burns.



Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are dangerous.

On average, **1 of every 52** reported home Christmas tree fires resulted in death.



A heat source too close to the Christmas tree causes **1 in every 4** winter fires.



Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.



Make sure your tree is **at least 3 feet away** from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents. Also, make sure your tree does not block exits.



Get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.



For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/winter and www.nfpa.org/winter.

